

IN THE CLAIMS

The status of the claims as presently amended is as follows:

1. (*Currently Amended*) A hermetic compressor comprising:

an electric motor unit;

a compressing unit driven by the electric motor unit; and

a hermetic container accommodating the electric motor unit and the compressing unit;

and,

wherein the compressing unit comprising comprises:

a compressing room having an opening;

a suction valve disposed at ~~an~~ the opening of ~~a~~ the compressing room; and

a suction muffler having:

a suction muffler body ~~for~~ forming a sound-deadening space;

a first communicating path ~~for~~ communicating with the suction valve and with the sound-deadening space; and

a second communicating path ~~for~~ communicating with the hermetic container and with the sound-deadening space,

wherein an opening, which is situated in the sound-deadening space, of the first communicating path, and an opening, which is situated in the sound-deadening space, of the second communicating path ~~are~~ open in a substantially identical direction, ~~and~~

wherein a wall of the suction muffler body has an integrally formed sound-insulating wall at a place at least confronting both of the openings situated in the sound-deadening space, and
wherein the sound-insulating wall and the wall of the suction muffler body form a blocked space.

2-3. (*Canceled*)

4. (*Currently Amended*) The hermetic compressor of claim [[2]]1, wherein:

the suction muffler is made from synthetic resin and formed of at least two components,

~~and wherein the sound-insulating wall is disposed vertically with respect to an opening face of the suction muffler body,~~ and

the first communication path and the second communication paths open in a horizontal direction.

5. (*Currently Amended*) ~~The A~~ hermetic compressor ~~of claim 4,~~ comprising:

- an electric motor unit;
- a compressing unit driven by the electric motor unit; and
- a hermetic container accommodating the electric motor unit and the compressing unit,
wherein the compressing unit comprises:
 - a compressing room having an opening;
 - a suction valve disposed at the opening of the compressing room; and
 - a suction muffler having:
 - a suction muffler body forming a sound-deadening space;
 - a first communicating path communicating with the suction valve and with the sound-deadening space; and
 - a second communicating path communicating with the hermetic container and with the sound-deadening space,
- wherein an opening, which is situated in the sound-deadening space, of the first communicating path, and an opening, which is situated in the sound-deadening space, of the second communicating path open in a substantially identical direction,
- wherein a wall of the suction muffler body has a sound-insulating wall at a place at least confronting both of the openings situated in the sound-deadening space, and
- wherein the sound-insulating wall works as a guiding wall for guiding gas sucked from the second communication path to the first communication path smoothly.

6. (*Currently Amended*) The hermetic compressor of claim 5, ~~wherein a sectional view of the guiding wall shows like letter U~~ has a substantially U-shaped cross section, and the first communication path and the second communication paths open in a horizontal direction.

7. (*New*) The hermetic compressor of claim 5, wherein:

- the suction muffler is made from synthetic resin and formed of at least two components,
- the sound-insulating wall is disposed vertically with respect to an opening face of the suction muffler body, and
- the first communication path and the second communication paths open in a horizontal direction.